ROCK ISLAND RAILROAD, UTICA PASSENGER DEPOT 1&M Canal National Heritage Corridor East of Clark Street, North of Grove Street Utica LaSalle County Illinois HAER No. IL-94

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record National Park Service Department of the Interior P.O. Box 37127 Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

## HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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## ROCK ISLAND RAILROAD, UTICA PASSENGER DEPOT I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor

HAER No. IL-94

Location:

I & M Canal National Heritage Corridor East of Clark Street, north of Grove

Street

Utica, LaSalle County, Illinois

UTM: 16 E.3319200 N.4578540

Quad: LaSalle

Date of Construction:

ca. 1870

Builder:

Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad

Present Status:

Abandoned

Significance:

Built mid-nineteenth century, the Utica station is one of the oldest surviving depots built by the Chicago, Rock Island

& Pacific Railroad.

Project Information:

The Illinois and Michigan Canal was designated a National Heritage Corridor in 1984. The following year HABS/HAER embarked on an extensive inventory and documentation project of the 100 milelong corridor. Field work for this project was concluded in 1988. Final

editing of the documentation was

completed in 1992.

Historians:

Gray Fitzsimons and Douglas Kupel, 1985.

Utica's railroad passenger station is one of the oldest surviving stations on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Line. Although the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad was completed from LaSalle to Chicago in 1854, most of the extant passenger stations date from the late nineteenth century. The passenger station in Utica has been abandoned for many years.

The dept is a one-and-one-half-story brick building measuring approximately 50' x 18'. The building contains a limestone foundation, stretcher-bond brick load-bearing wall, and a steeply pitched gable roof. The gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles and projecting purlins at the gable ends rest on curved and chamfered wooden brackets. Brick segmental arches span the window openings. The long, narrow, window openings are presently boarded up. Three wooden doors are located along the north facade; one is a sliding door opening into the old baggage room. Two wooden doors are located along the south facade, one of which is also a sliding door. The north facade faces the railroad tracks; the south facade faces a parking area. The station is currently abandoned and in danger of demolition.

## SOURCES:

Sanborn Map Co., <u>Utica, Illinois</u> (New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1888).

Dwight L. Agnew, "Beginning of the Rock Island Lines," <u>Illinois</u> State, Historical Society Journal, v. 46 (1953): 407-24.

<u>History of LaSalle County, Illinois</u>, v. 2 (Chicago: Inter-State Publishing Co., 1886): 677-8.